


| **November PA Meeting** | **Parent Fun Events** | **Winter Events** | **Charity Update**

November PA Meeting

Winter term at a glance



8th Nov – Cooking Class at the Hutong

15th Nov – PA International Day

6th Dec – Santa's secret shoppe

6th Dec – **Start time 6:30pm** –
Next PA meeting

Thank you to the parents who attended the PA meeting.

Mr. Laird informed everyone that he attended a Nord Anglia principal meeting in Tanzania. Nord Anglia is a network of 43 schools worldwide and through the "power of 43", BSB Sanlitun is able to access the Juilliard and MIT programs. As the children move to secondary education and with Nord Anglia, there is an opportunity for them to go on a camping experience in Tanzania. One, which David thinks, is really worthwhile.

Christine advised that Year 4 children are going on a trip with MCF children to Madame Tussauds. It will be a cultural exchange, as the children will be working in groups with the MCF children to complete activities around Madame Tussauds. The children will also be paired with an MCF child to make a wax craft item, which they will then be able to take home with them.

Feedback from the previous PA meeting has been incorporated into updated homework grid. Details have been sent home a letter to parents whose children this has effected. It will be a more child friendly grid allowing independent work with a flattening of the point system.

The school has been monitoring the air quality in the shared areas on high pollution days. The readings indicated that the air quality was good and has significantly improved by 2/3 with a bad day reading 40. An external company will be engaged to come in and conduct air monitoring next time pollution levels are high. David will be inviting a health professional to come in to lead parents in discussion in regards to the air quality, not just at school but at home also.

An official BSB Sanlitun we chat will be launched shortly; it will be used to give timely official information from school.

Nord Anglia has developed a prototype app that will be an interactive platform between school and parents. School will look at adopting it when it becomes available.

Winter Events

Parent Fun Event – Cooking Class at the Hutong – Tuesday 8th November -10:30am-13:00pm

The Beijing cooking class provides the opportunity to learn about Chinese and global food culture, cooking techniques and regional cuisine. In each 2.5 hour class you will learn how to prepare 3 dishes including recipes to take home, followed by a meal around the table, enjoying what you and your fellow classmates have cooked using your newly acquired skills. **Including free flow of beer and non-alcoholic drinks**

The Tastes of China workshop will bring you three different dishes from three different regions. You will learn classic Chinese kitchen techniques such as stir-frying, braising, deep-frying and Chinese cleaver knife skills.

The dishes include Gong Bao Chicken – Sichuan, Pineapple Rice – Yunnan & Shredded Pork with Tofu Wraps – Beijing. Price 300rmb per person (minimum class size 10) **Please email sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn to secure a place.** Class numbers will be limited however – if this is very popular I can arrange additional classes.

Parent Fun Event – Lama Temple & Confucian tour with Jeremiah - Feedback

The best tour ever! - In a country that boasts over 5,000 years of history, a tour of this magnitude could easily be overwhelming, or worse, boring. Jeremiah gave an easy to follow overview filled with a ton of fun facts without sacrificing the information that has shaped Beijing as a city today best tour ever. Having lived in China for over 8 years, I've had my fair share of tours around China. The tour of The Lama Temple & Confucian tour just blew everything else out of the water. Our guide was incredibly knowledgeable about local Beijing history and Chinese history in general and was wonderfully friendly and confidently answered all of our questions. Don't miss the next one!!



PA Quiz Night – Feedback

Unfortunately we did not hit minimums for this event to go ahead. We will be rescheduling another quiz for January at an external venue – hopefully we will get to see more of you there. Pub Quizzes in the UK are a staple in the social calendar and are usually a weekly occurrence. They are fun, competitive and sociable and usually involve alcohol. If you've never attended one give it a go.

Please note going forward all of the Parent Fun Events will be listed until June – If you are interested in participating please email Kirsty New – sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn

PA International Day – 15th November

A fun-filled event for BSB Sanlitun students – run by the parents

International day is a fun day for the students to gain an understanding about other countries in which their fellow students come from. They will get an opportunity to play games, eat delicious snacks, make craft items, learn about national animals, flags and much more.

All tables are now full! We have confirmed 27 countries that will be taking part in this fantastic event. A nation head representative has been appointed for each table, the countries participating in this event are listed below:

Argentina, Austria, Australia, Bahrain, Belgium, China, Denmark, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, Oman, Papa New Guinea, Russia, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, UK, USA.

If you would like to help with the selected countries please email the Event Coordinator Stephanie Heydolph – sanlitun.paevents@britishschool.org.cn who will connect you with the correct table head representative.

You can help in a variety of ways – baking snacks, providing decorations or activities for the stand, through to helping man the stand on the day when the children visit with their passports, if you can help in any way please support your country, it will be greatly appreciated not only by the students but also your fellow parents. Don't miss out and get involved.

Please note this is a child fun event and if you are not volunteering you will not be able to come along, due to time scales and numbers.



Charity Update

The PA raises funds to support the Migrant Children Foundation (MCF), which was founded in 2009 by UK educator Helen Boyle. The MCF helps the children of those migrant workers from other provinces that come to find work in Beijing. If the family does not have a Beijing residency permit (hukou), the children are not entitled to access education or health care in Beijing.

PA Bake Sale – Taking place in the BSB Sanlitun Reception – 3:00pm onwards

The BSB students looked fantastic at the dress up day and the bake sale was a great accompaniment to this. Year 5 students volunteered their time and helped with all of the preparations on the day! The baked goods that were sent in were fabulous. We raised 2340rmb; all proceeds go to the MCF Charity.



BSB Sanlitun PA Cookbook

We have an enthusiastic volunteer team of 10 with skills ranging from photography, graphic design, editing, proof reading and illustrating. We are still looking for a bilingual volunteer who can translate the recipes into Chinese, as this has been a huge request from many parents. Unfortunately if we do not have a volunteer for this position it will not be a bilingual piece.

We are still taking submissions of handwritten recipes from children. Please note that if the children's recipes are not clear, we will not be able to publish the recipe. If you want your child to be involved, other suggestions are to hand write or type the recipe yourself and have your child write their name and draw a picture or hand write the amounts and the ingredients. Envelopes were sent home last week. Please return by 10 November to school. **Currently we have 40 recipes** have now been received. We will move ahead with our first planning meeting on Wednesday morning. The PA welcome any other parent volunteers who would like to help on the project.

Recipes will be made and styled by a parent volunteer who is an executive chef. 2 talented parent volunteers who are experienced in food photography will photograph the dishes.

We will be launching the cookbook in May at the school picnic. Pre-orders will be taken from April onwards. Sale price is tentatively 150rmb with printing cost at an estimate 40rmb each. So proceeds to MCF will be approximately 110rmb per cookbook. Please note that these are working figures only. Please contact Grace if you are interested. Email Grace: pangmei.wang@yahoo.com

PA volunteers needed to teach English at MCF school – Friday 10:00am – 11:30am

The PA is looking for parent volunteers to come and help teach English at one of the MCF migrant schools. No teaching experience is required, just your enthusiasm! Students are 4-6 year olds, teaching them English vocabulary through song, activities, games and arts and crafts. Lesson plans and resources are provided and the lesson is sent out a few days prior. We visit the nursery every week. Meet at Huangcun Railway Station at Exit D (it is on subway Line 4) at 9:30am on Fridays then walk to the school together.

Please contact Grace if you are interested. Email Grace: pangmei.wang@yahoo.com



Other Business

Introduction to the PA Committee

PA Coordinator – Kirsty New – sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn

Secretary - Grace Walter

Treasurer – Ira Ovesen

Charity Board - Grace Walker, Emma Murphy and Monica Howes - 1 more positions available

Grace – pangmei.wang@yahoo.com

Parent Fun Event Coordinator – **Position available**

Events Coordinator – Stephanie Heydolph - sanlitun.paevents@britishschool.org.cn

Lunch Parent Coordinator – Alexandra Bichteler – Alexandra@bichteler.net

All personal profiles of the current PA team are also attached

Positions available on the PA team:

Charity Committee

- Liaise between MCF, PA and school to determine appropriate projects to direct funds raised
- Liaise between MCF and BSB to ensure that BSB pupils have an opportunity to interact with MCF children in an appropriate way
- Ensure funds are being disbursed to the MCF in a timely manner
- Identify ways that parents can become involved in volunteering with MCF programs

Parent Fun Event Coordinator

- To create fun and entertaining social gatherings for parents alike.
- To communicate with parents through the BSB forum
- To liaise with vendors who are managing the events
- Negotiating costs etc. based on numbers.

Please be aware that if you feel you do not have the time to commit to a specific full time role on the PA team we are happy for you to volunteer for roles in specific events.

Another sign up sheet is located on the PA Committee board at the BSB Primary Campus enabling you to participate in specific events and socializing gatherings etc. Being a part of the PA or volunteering for an event really helps to transition smoothly with parents and teachers alike and makes it easy to get involved in the school community.

To get in touch with the PA with questions, suggestions, or to volunteer please email us at sanlitun.pa@britishschool.org.cn